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**September 2019**

## **In this month's update...**

[New on NetRegs](#), [New Legislation](#), [Consultation](#), [Updates](#) and [Events](#).

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## New on NetRegs



### F-Gas refrigeration ban e-learning tool

NetRegs has launched a new learning course on The F-gas refrigeration ban. Learn about the 2020 F-gas ban and whether your equipment is affected.

For more details you can [access NetRegs e-learning here](#)

#### ***Important Announcement for anyone working with F-Gas or ODS -***

*If you work with products containing F-gases or ODS, such as refrigerators, air conditioning and fire protection equipment, [read the F-Gas and ODS certificates article below](#)*

## Legislation



## **The Ecodesign for Energy-Related Products and Energy Information (Amendment) Regulations 2019**

These Regulations amend the Ecodesign for Energy-Related Products Regulations 2010 and the Energy Information Regulations 2011 in order to comply with and reflect changes that have been made to European Union law.

These changes relate specifically to:

- The introduction of ecodesign requirements for servers and data storage products;
- The annulment of energy labelling requirements for vacuum cleaners.

Regulations 1 and 3 come into force on 03 October 2019 and Regulation 2 comes into force on 01 March 2020.

View the full text of the Regulations here:

[The Ecodesign for Energy-Related Products and Energy Information \(Amendment\) Regulations 2019](#)

## **Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019**

This Order comes into force on 1 December 2019. It relates to Regulation (EU) No. 1143/2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species ("the Principal Regulation") which came into force on 1 January 2015.

It imposes strict restrictions on a list of species known as 'species of Union concern'. These are species whose potential adverse impacts across the European Union are such that concerted action across Europe is required.

The restrictions mean that (subject to certain defences, or exemptions through permits or licences) species of Union concern cannot be imported into the EU, kept, bred, transported, placed on the market, used or exchanged, allowed to reproduce, grown or cultivated, or released into the environment.

There are currently 66 species on the Union list: 30 animals and 36 plants.

You can read the Order in full here <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisr/2019/159/made>

**Consultation**



## **Public Consultation - Management measures for widely spread Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Northern Ireland**

The impact of invasive alien species (IAS) on our domestic and global biodiversity are severe and growing. They challenge the survival of some of our rarest species, damaging our sensitive ecosystems and have an impact on a range of industries and networks, including farming, the building industry and our waterways.

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) is committed to taking action in dealing with the spread and impact of invasive alien species.

The purpose of this consultation is to obtain public views on the management measures being considered by DAERA.

The responses will help DAERA develop its thinking in this area so that it can put in place processes that will allow for effective action to be taken to manage species of union concern that are widely spread in Northern Ireland.

***This Public Consultation is live from Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019 for a period of six weeks.***

You can read the Consultation and if you would like to comment, the ways to respond here

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-management-measures-widely-spread-invasive-alien-species-ias-northern-ireland>

## **Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland – Public Discussion Document**

The Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) is seeking views on the potential scope, scale and ambition of Northern Ireland's first environment strategy. Northern Ireland has never had an overarching environment strategy but the Department believes one is now needed to develop an effective and holistic approach that will deliver real improvements for many decades to come.

The consultation closes on the 23 December 2019. All of the responses received will be carefully analysed and will be used to inform a future Minister's deliberations on the content of the Environment Strategy for

Northern Ireland.

You can read the consultation, associated documents and ways to respond here  
<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/esni-public-discussion-document>

## Updates

### **F-gases and ozone depleting substances (ODS) Announcement**

*Action needed by 31st Oct 2019 if businesses/employees possess certificates for work with F-gases or ozone depleting substances in products/equipment and work in the Republic of Ireland's jurisdiction*



If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, certificates gained from a UK-based certification body will no longer be valid for F-gas/ODS work in the Republic of Ireland ("RoI").

Businesses working in the RoI with F-gases or ODS in equipment, even if just partially, may therefore need to take action before 31st October 2019. This would apply to both company and individual certificates.

[Read more here >>>](#)

### **Prepare for the closed period - maximise your slurry storage capacity**

Farmers should always seek to make best use of the nutrients in slurry and manures by spreading during the growing season. This also ensures that storage capacity is maximised as winter approaches.

[Read more here >>>](#)



# College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE)- Management Notes for September 2019



Management Notes are prepared by CAFRE (a college within the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs) staff and in this September edition updates are provided in several areas including: Dairying, Grassland Management, Information Technology and Crops.

You can read the Notes here <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/news/management-notes-september-2019>

## DAERA invites applications for beef and sheep Technology Demonstration Farms

To encourage a greater rate of technology adoption on farms in Northern Ireland, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs is seeking to establish a network of Technology Demonstration Farmers who will host visits and showcase the use of innovative technologies on their farms. Research has shown that early adopters of innovations and technology play an important role in convincing their peers to take a more innovative approach to their business.



**If you are interested in becoming a Technology Demonstration Farm you can find out more about the scheme here <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/news/daera-invites-applications-beef-and-sheep-technology-demonstration-farms>**

## BREXIT – DAERA helps you to stay up to date with the latest information

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) has engaged in a significant programme of work which covers a range of issues that arise as a consequence of the UK leaving the EU. The information set out in these pages is aimed at



helping you to understand how leaving the EU may affect your business or organisation and what you can do to get ready.

Read more here <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/landing-pages/brexit>

## NIEA Business Plan

The draft NIEA Business Plan for 2019/20 has been published and is available on The DAERA website.

The Departmental Board approved the content plan in June 2019 but it still remains draft pending approval by an incoming Minister. The Plan illustrates the valuable role the agency plays in protecting the Northern Ireland environment and ensuring its future.

It can be found at: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/niea-business-plan-2019-20>



## Events

**SMARTER WASTE REGULATION  
AND  
POLLUTION CRIME ENFORCEMENT**

**12-14 NOVEMBER 2019**  
**Brussels, Belgium**



**REGISTER NOW**



**LIFE SMART Waste project final conference**

**When:** 12-13 November 2019

**Where:** Brussels

LIFE SMART Waste is joining together with INTERPOL's Pollution Crime Working Group (PCWG) to deliver a conference entitled, '**Smarter waste regulation and pollution crime enforcement**'. The joint conference will bring together environmental regulators, law enforcement agencies, policymakers, legislators, waste management industry representatives and other key stakeholders, creating opportunities for knowledge exchange and collaboration on a truly global basis.

Registration is open until 12 October 2019.

[Sign up here >>>](#)

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